

**North American Energy Working Group/
North American Security and Prosperity Partnership Energy Working Group**

Dating to March 2001, the heads of Natural Resources Canada, the Mexican Secretariat of Energy, and the U.S. Department of Energy formally committed to work together to facilitate a stronger North American energy sector through the formation the North American Energy Working Group (NAEWG). Made up of officials from the three countries, the NAEWG established six expert groups focused vital trilateral energy concerns, with direction coming from a working group of senior officials from each energy agency. This group meets periodically to assess progress and determine the future direction of the NAEWG.

On March 23, 2005, Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin, Mexican President Vicente Fox, and U.S. President George W. Bush announced the formation Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) in Waco, Texas. In order to achieve the SPP's broader commitment of ensuring security and enhancing development in North America, the SPP included six Security Working Groups and 10 Prosperity Working Groups, designed to promote greater cooperation and information sharing in various areas, including a prosperity working group focused on energy. In order to fulfill this mandate, the leaders decided to incorporate the existing NAEWG into the new SPP structure.

Under the SPP, the energy goals are to *“strengthen North America’s energy markets by working together, according to our respective legal frameworks, to increase reliable energy supplies for the region’s needs and development; by facilitating investment in energy infrastructure, technology improvements, production and reliable delivery of energy; by enhancing cooperation to identify and utilize best practices, and to streamline and update regulations; by promoting energy efficiency, conservation, and technologies like clean coal.”*

To these ends, the NAEWG contains nine expert groups:

1. Electricity Experts Group
2. Energy Efficiency Experts Group
3. Energy Picture Experts Group
4. Hydrocarbons Experts Group
5. Natural Gas Trade and Interconnections Experts Group
6. Nuclear Collaboration Experts Group
7. Oil Sands Experts Group
8. Regulatory Experts Group
9. Science and Technology Experts Group

Responsibility for the overall coordination of the prosperity initiatives of the SPP for the United States falls to the Department of Commerce. For more information, visit: www.SPP.gov.

NAEWG Documents

North America: The Energy Picture II

Guide to Federal Regulation of Sales of Imported Electricity in Canada, Mexico, and the United States

North American Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling

North American Natural Gas Vision

North America – Regulation of International Electricity Trade

North America: The Energy Picture